

REMARKS

In response to the requirement to elect a species/subspecies, the applicant elects, without traverse, Species V and Subspecies B.

The applicant believes that the following claims are readable upon the elected species/subspecies: 2; 21; 23; 31; 38; and 40 to 48. The applicant believes that the following claims are generic to all species/subspecies: 2; 38; and 40 to 46; and 48.

Claims 3; 4; 5; 6; and 7 are withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected species/subspecies, subject to reinstatement if a generic claim is held allowable.

After the species/subspecies election, claims 2; 21; 23; 31; 38; and 40 to 48 remain in the application.

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted for the sake of good order to make of record in this case documents that are of record in a co-pending companion case United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/307,226, filed November 29, 2002 (Examiner Tan-Uyen T. Ho, Group Art Unit 3731), to the extent that that are not already of record in this case.

As expressed during the previous interview, if the Examiner believes that questions or matters of clarification remain, applicant believes that such matters can be handled expeditiously by an interview by telephone to advance prosecution of this case, and the applicant remains committed to proceed on that basis.

Respectfully Submitted,

By


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